



News From
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Florida's 15th District

-- Serving Brevard, Indian River, Osceola, and Polk Counties

For Immediate Release:
February 12, 2003

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Weldon's Human Embryo Cloning Ban Clears Judiciary Committee Intact, Heads to House Floor

Washington, DC- The House Judiciary Committee earlier today approved H.R. 534, *The Human Cloning Prohibition Act of 2003*. The bill was favorably reported out of the committee without any amendments and will soon be sent to the House floor for a final vote.

"The real crux of the issue is whether we as a society want to create human life for the sole purpose of experimental research, especially since that research will open the door to cloning human babies," said Rep. Dave Weldon, M.D. "There are successful alternatives, so I, along with a majority of the members of the Judiciary Committee, contend that allowing the creation of human embryos for experimental research is unethical and unnecessary."

Some Human Cloning Basics:

- Creating cloned live-born human children begins by creating cloned human embryos.
- H.R. 534 does not prohibit adult or embryo stem cell research or cloning techniques to produce molecules, DNA, cells other than human embryos, tissues, organs, plants, or animals other than humans.
- The U.S. Department of Justice has provided testimony that a reproductive human cloning ban is unenforceable.
- Research cloning will pave the way for reproductive cloning. The American Society for Reproductive Medicine testified before Congress that they would like to engage in reproductive cloning once they deem it safe.
- Human cloning is baby manufacture and the American people overwhelmingly oppose it in poll after poll.
- Experimental research cloning endangers women, because it would require the harvesting of millions of eggs, exposing them to exploitation and unnecessary risks for purely experimental purposes.

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